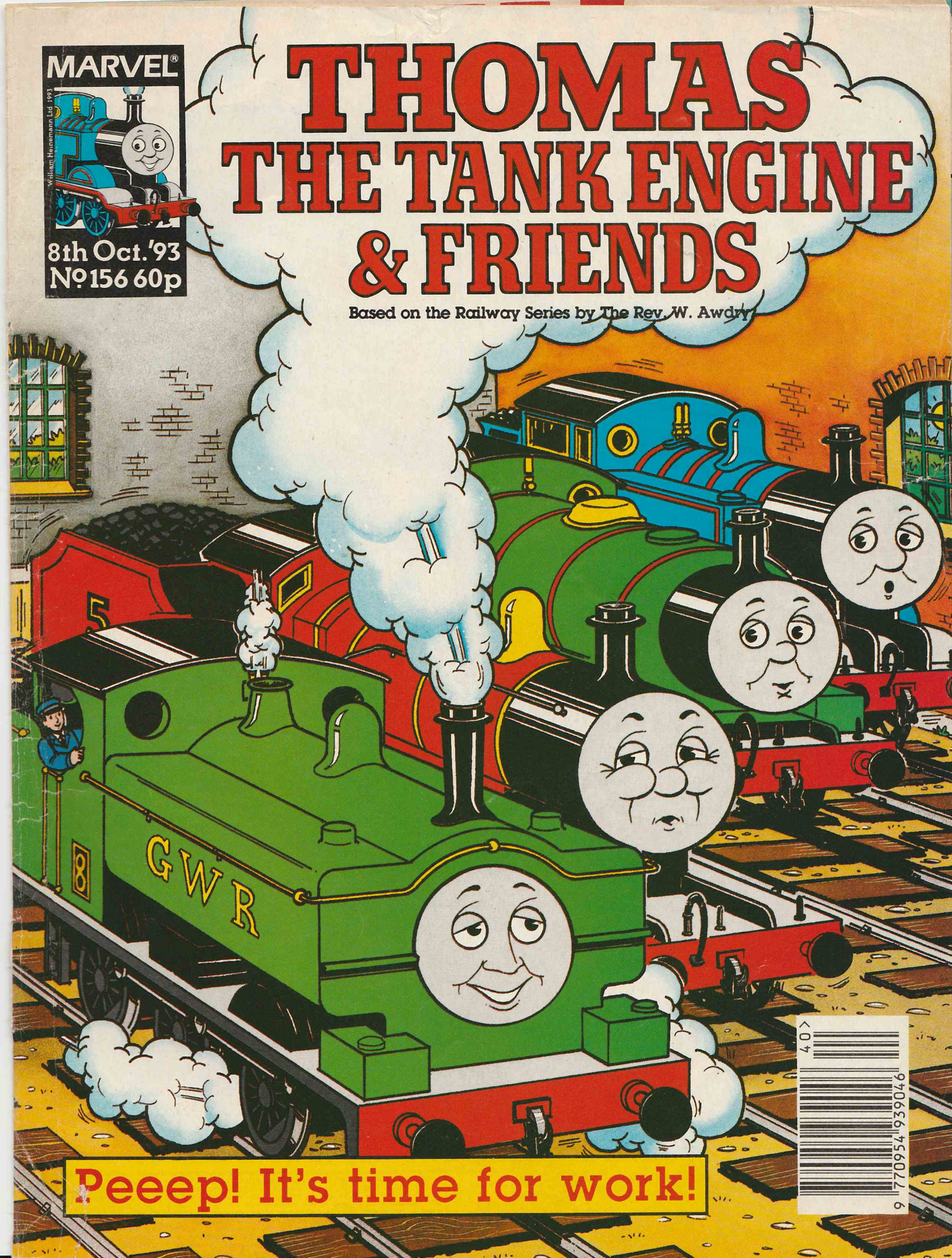
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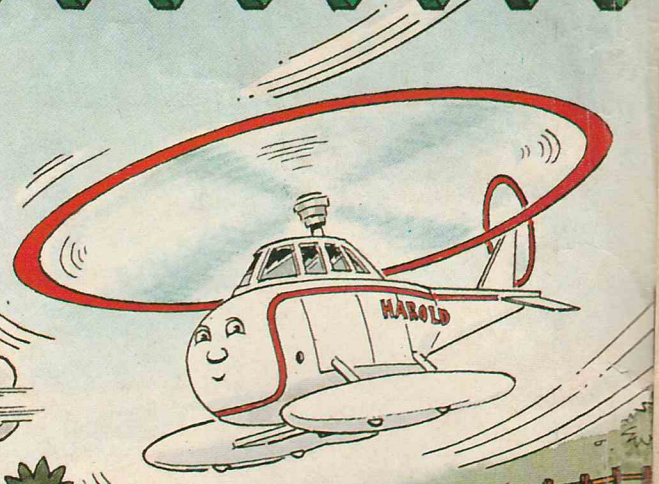
William Heinemann Ltd 1993
8th Oct.'93
Nº156 60p
THOMAS
THE TANK ENGINE
& FRIENDS
Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry
GWR
Peeep! It's time for work!
9 770954 939046 40

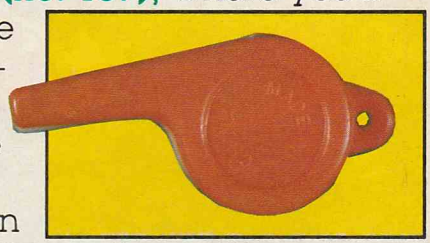
NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! The Fat Controller prides himself on running a very efficient railway! So when Duck's driver is late for work one morning, a special, reliable type of alarm clock is needed! In our second story, Thomas's driver builds an unusual present for one of Thomas's young friends! Peep! Peep!



A GIFT FOR YOU!

Don't miss the very next issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends (no. 157),** where you'll have the opportunity to practice being a guard on the Fat Controller's railway! Because we'll be giving away a super **guard's whistle,** just for you!



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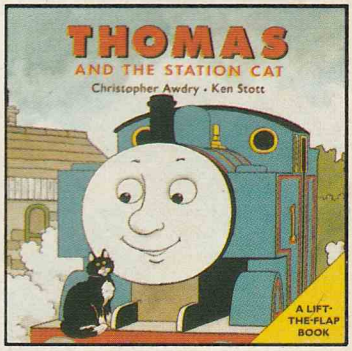

HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR FAT CONTROLLER'S CARD!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card**, just send one **red**, **yellow** and **blue** token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer). Plus a stamped addressed envelope to: The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

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THOMAS TOKEN

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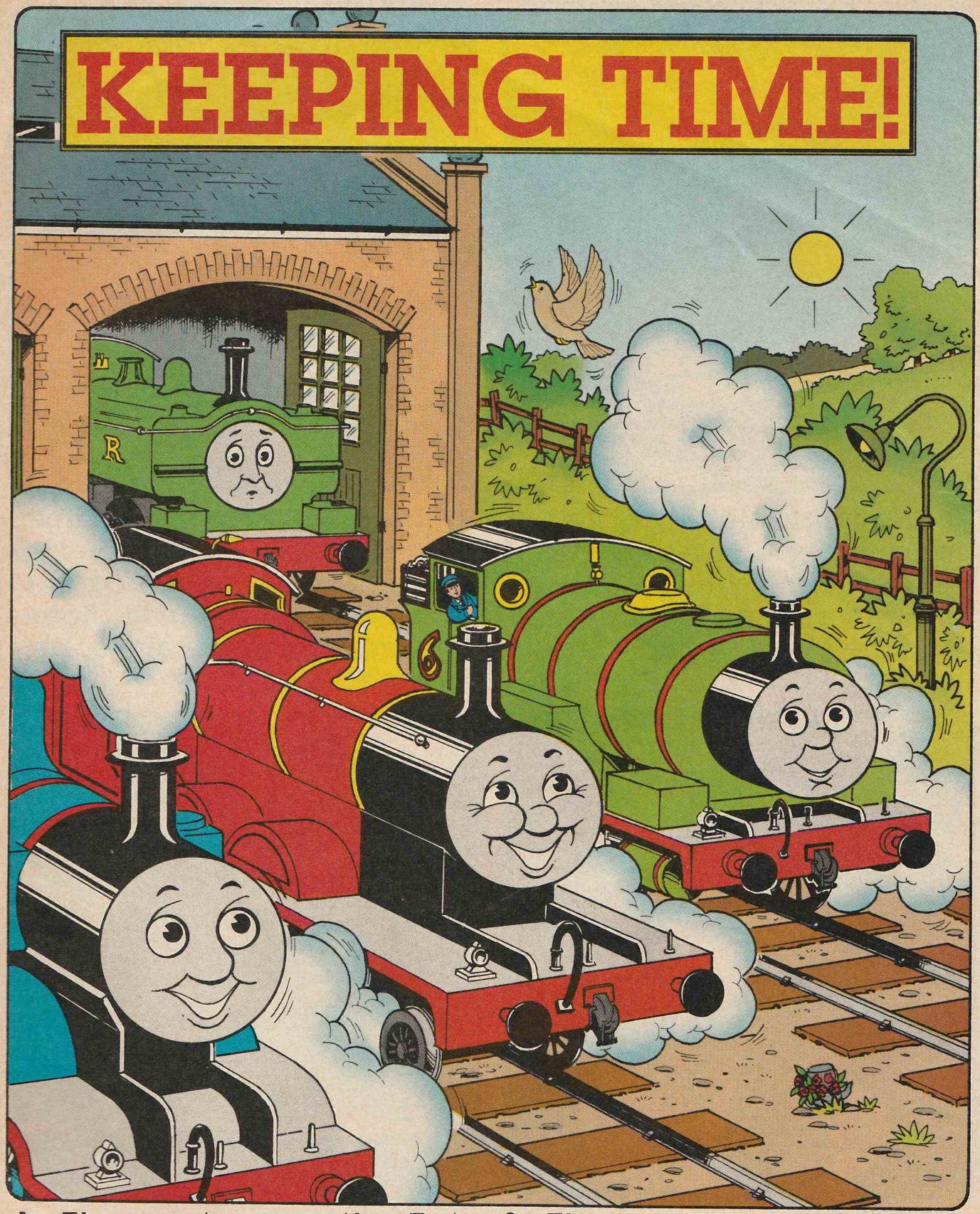
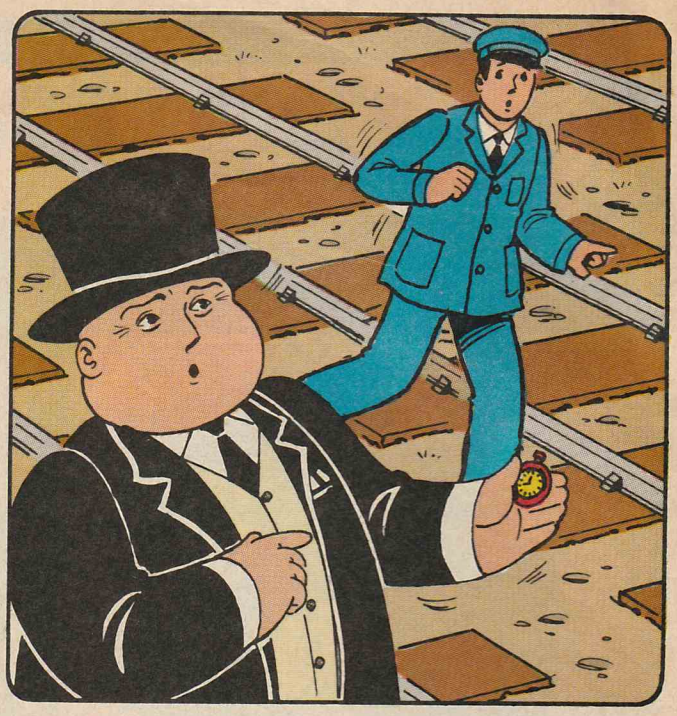
KEEPING TIME!



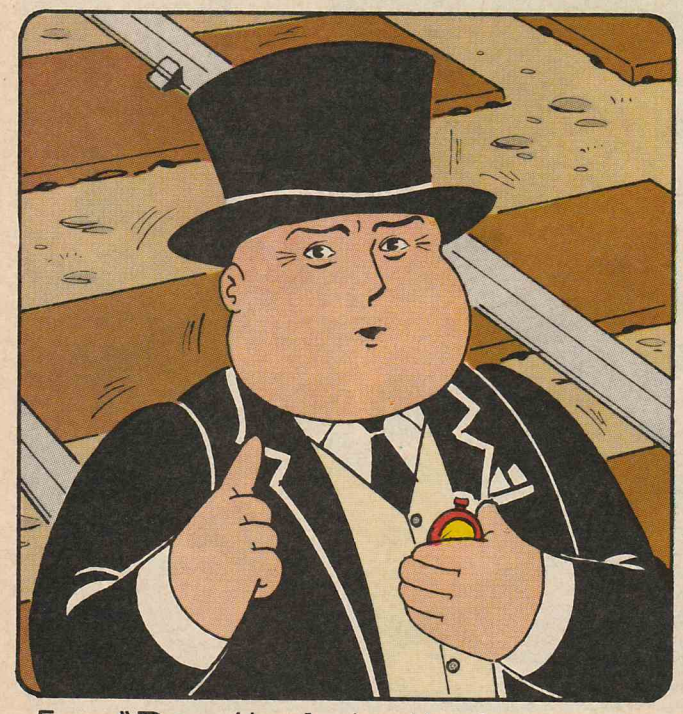
1. The engines on the Fat Controller's railway try hard to be Really Useful. The last thing they want is for the others to think of them as lazy-buffers.

2. That was why Duck felt miserable one morning. All the engines chuffed out of the shed except for Duck, because he was still waiting for his driver.

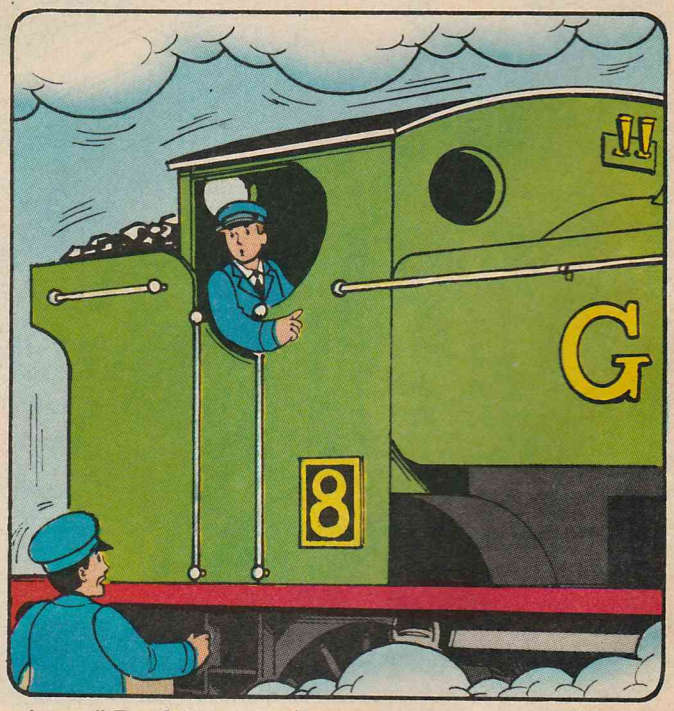
3. "He must think you need a longer rest!" teased Percy. "By the time you've got up enough steam, Duck, it will be time to go to bed again!" laughed James.



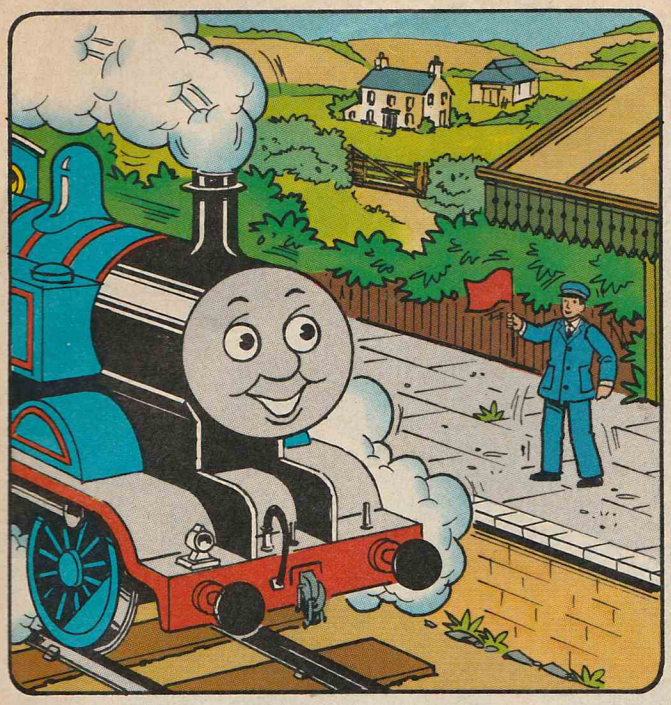
4. Then Duck's driver came running into the yard. He was red in the face and out of breath. "My alarm clock has broken. I'm very sorry I'm late!" he gasped.



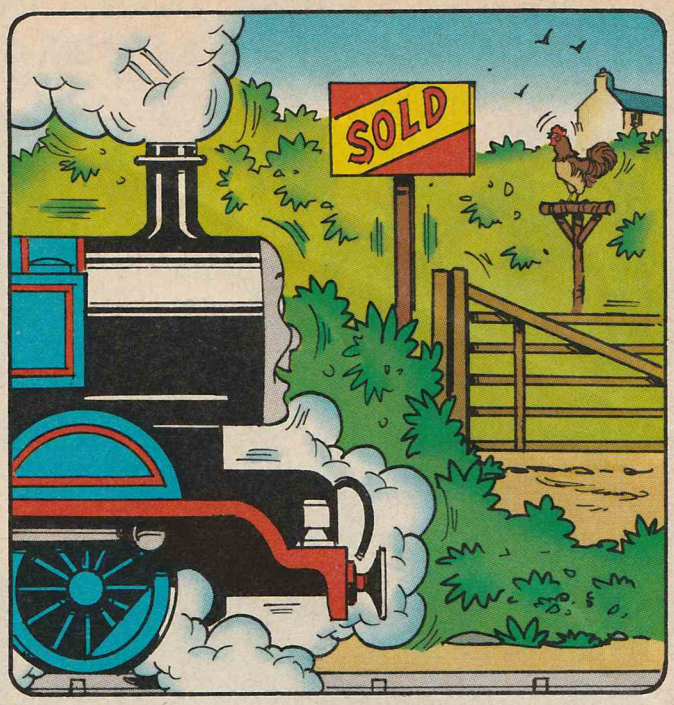
5. "Don't let it happen again," the Fat Controller replied. "My engines must keep to time!" Duck's driver promised to get the alarm clock repaired.



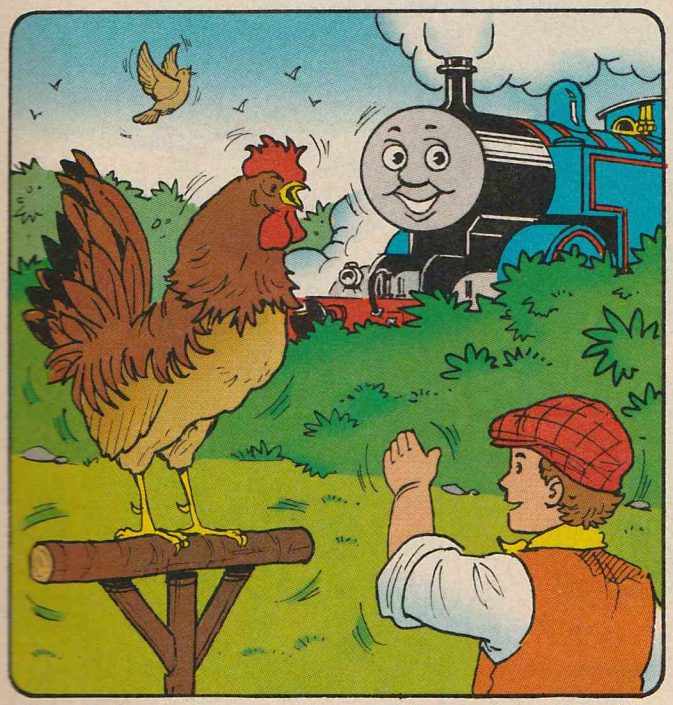
6. "I live far out in the countryside and have to get up at dawn to get to work!" he told Thomas's driver. "How can I wake so early without my clock?"



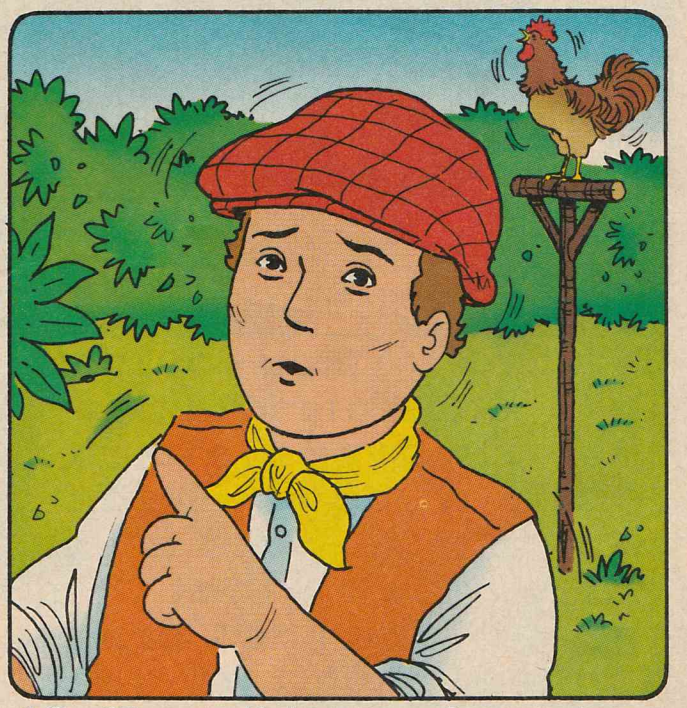
7. Thomas wanted to help but did not know how to. He set off on his branch line to deliver some trucks to a small station. Next to it was a farm.



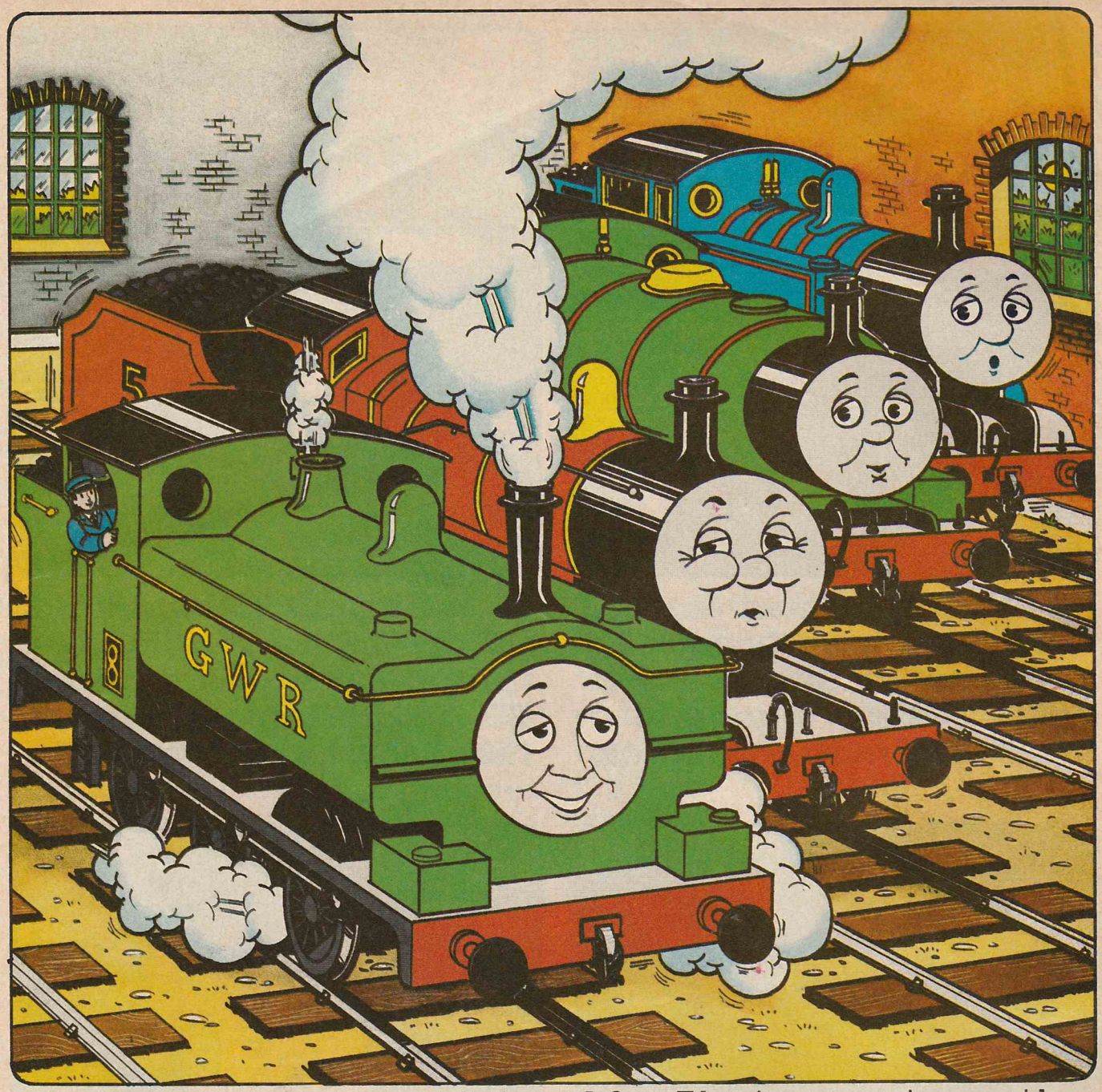
8. As Thomas rolled into a siding to uncouple the trucks, his driver saw a 'SOLD' sign by the farm gate. Then they heard a cockerel crowing loudly.



9. "Cock-a-doodle-doo!" it called. "That's Rooster!" said Thomas's driver. Then Thomas saw the farmer standing nearby. He looked very sad.



10. "I'm retiring and moving to town," said the farmer. "But I'm having trouble finding a good home for Rooster. It's because he's so noisy!"



11. The farmer couldn't take Rooster with him. "He always crows so loudly at dawn. I don't want him to wake me so early, now that I'm retired!" Thomas's driver suddenly had a good idea. "Let's go and find Duck's driver!" he cried. "Peep! Peep!" agreed Thomas.

12. That evening, the farmer took Rooster to Duck's driver's cottage. Next day, he was the first driver at work. "I've got a very reliable alarm clock now!" he said. "Wake up! Poop! Poop!" Duck whistled to the others. "You mean 'cock-a-doodle-doo!'" yawned Thomas.

THE END!

In our next issue: The Viaduct!

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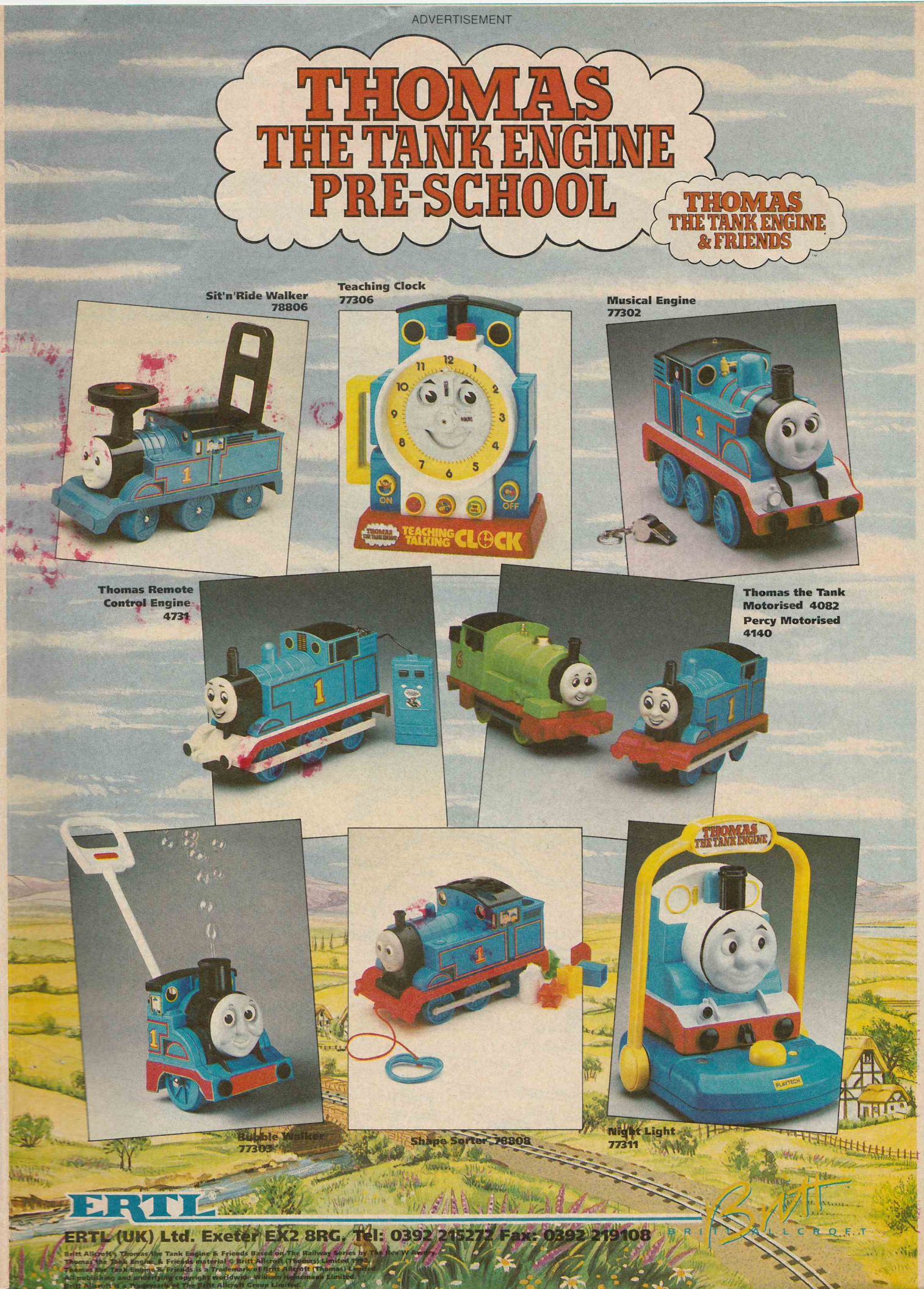
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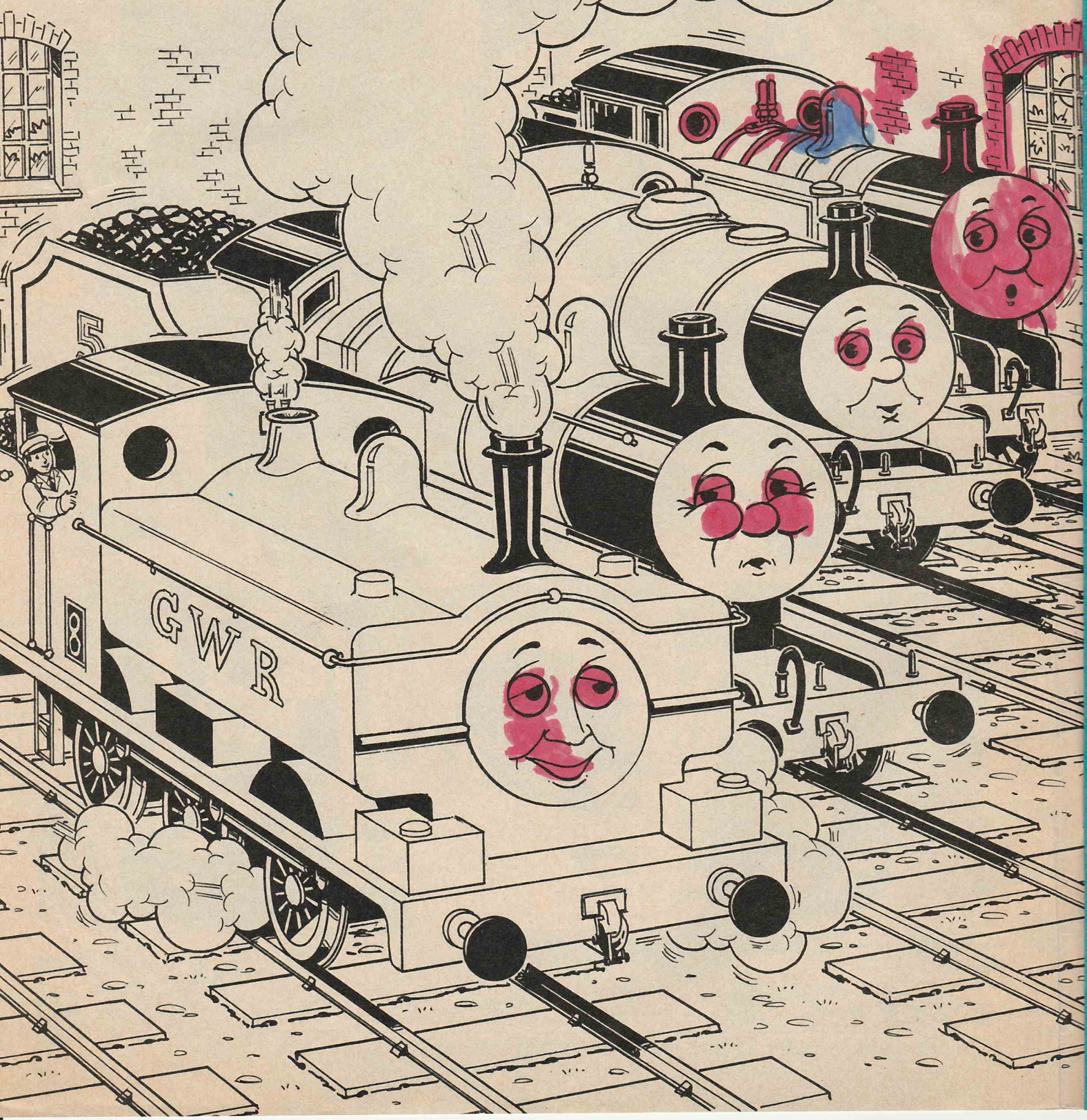
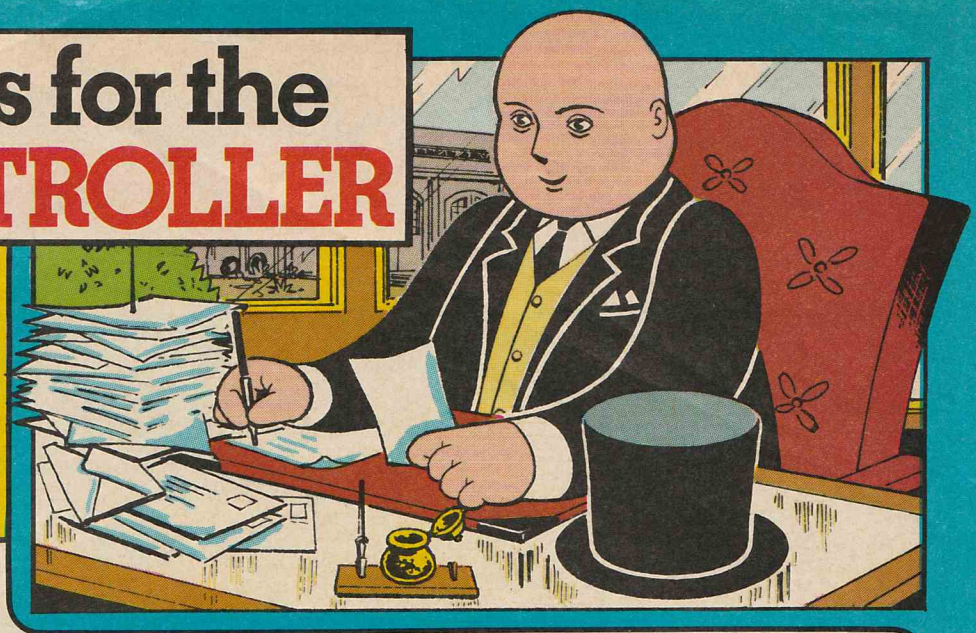
COLOURING TIME!

Wake up sleepy engines, the day has just begun
We'll colour you all in - carefully one by one!



Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
When I got up this morning to play with my Thomas train set, a spider was already there. He had very big arms. Mummy thought he might like some fresh air, but I think he likes playing with trains, just like me!
Love from **Philip,** aged 4.

Goodness me! *It really does sound as if your spider took quite a shine to your Thomas train. I do hope that you took your Mummy's advice and put him in the garden... Once you let him have a little ride on your train, of course!*

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

HAPPY CLOWN!

Dear Fat Controller,
I really liked the story about Percy being dressed up as a clown, because clowns make people happy. I wish all trains could look like Percy, then everyone would be happy!
Love from **Jack,** aged 3.
Well, well... that is a cheery thought, Jack! I know that Percy enjoyed pretending to be a clown too, because as he travelled along his line he saw so many happy, smiling faces!

SO ALIKE!

Dear Fat Controller,
I live on an island too... the Isle of Man! We have a steam railway which goes through the countryside. It's a splendid ride and Thomas would love it. Our engine is also blue, but his name is 'Hutchinson'!
Love from **Sam,** aged 3.
I have visited the Isle of Man, many years ago and must agree that it is similar to the Island of Sodor in many ways! The railway lines there run through very pretty parts of the countryside indeed!

BIRTHDAYS!

Jamie Watkins, Barnaby Dean, Mark Richard Veitch, Jonathan Kelleher, James Townsend, Tyler Goddard, Chad Bichard, Natalie Clooney, Michael Andrew Lewis Russell, Oliver Conner, Daniel Hodson, Rebecca Hodson, Marcus Roberts, Simon Ellison, Kieran Box, Alex Fraser, Aaron Emm, Edward Darnborough, Glyn Hogg, James McKee, William Clark and Ryan David Coates.

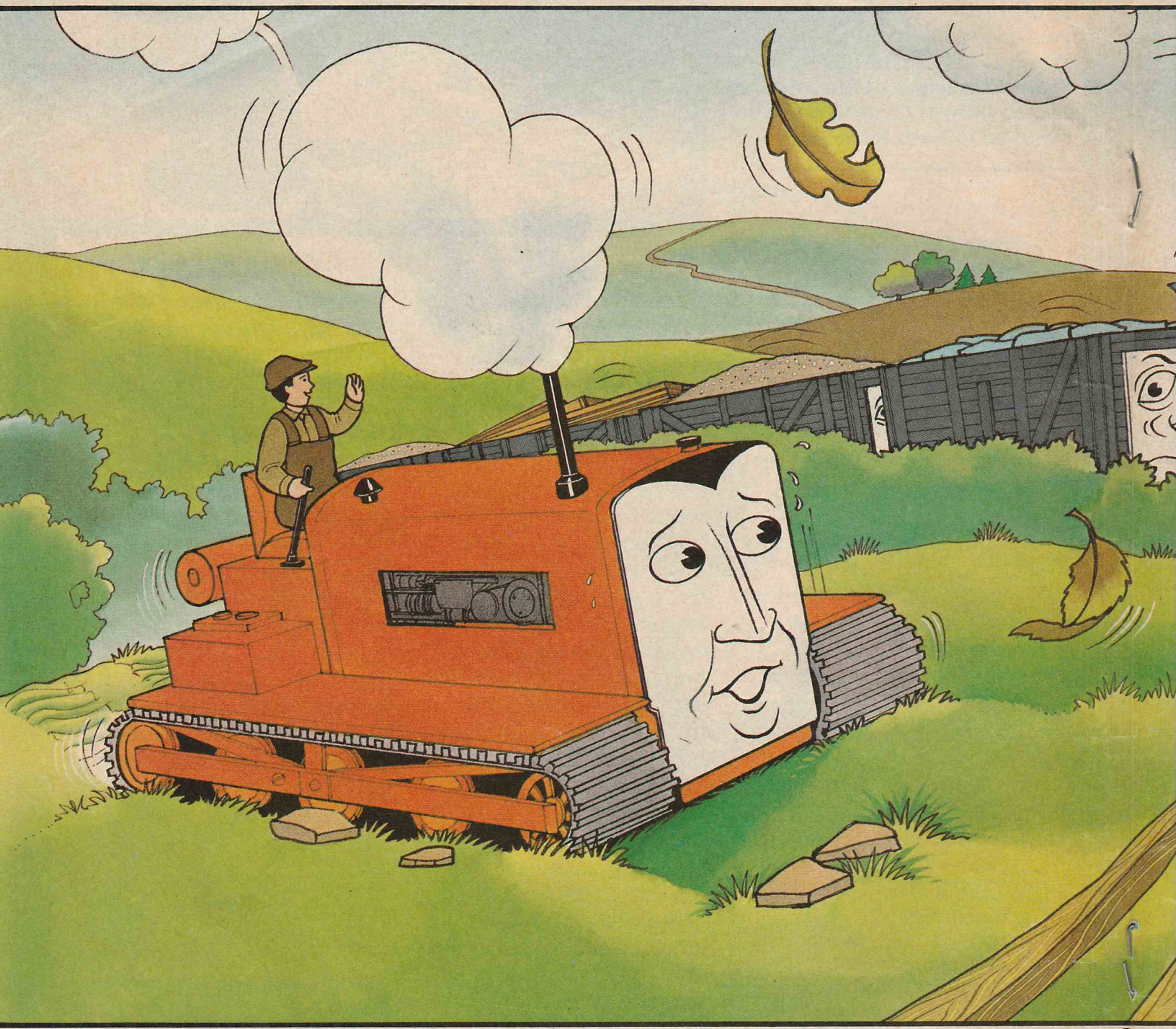
If you would like a birthday mention in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard at least **ten weeks in advance!**

Yours
Sir Topham Hatt
The Fat Controller

Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

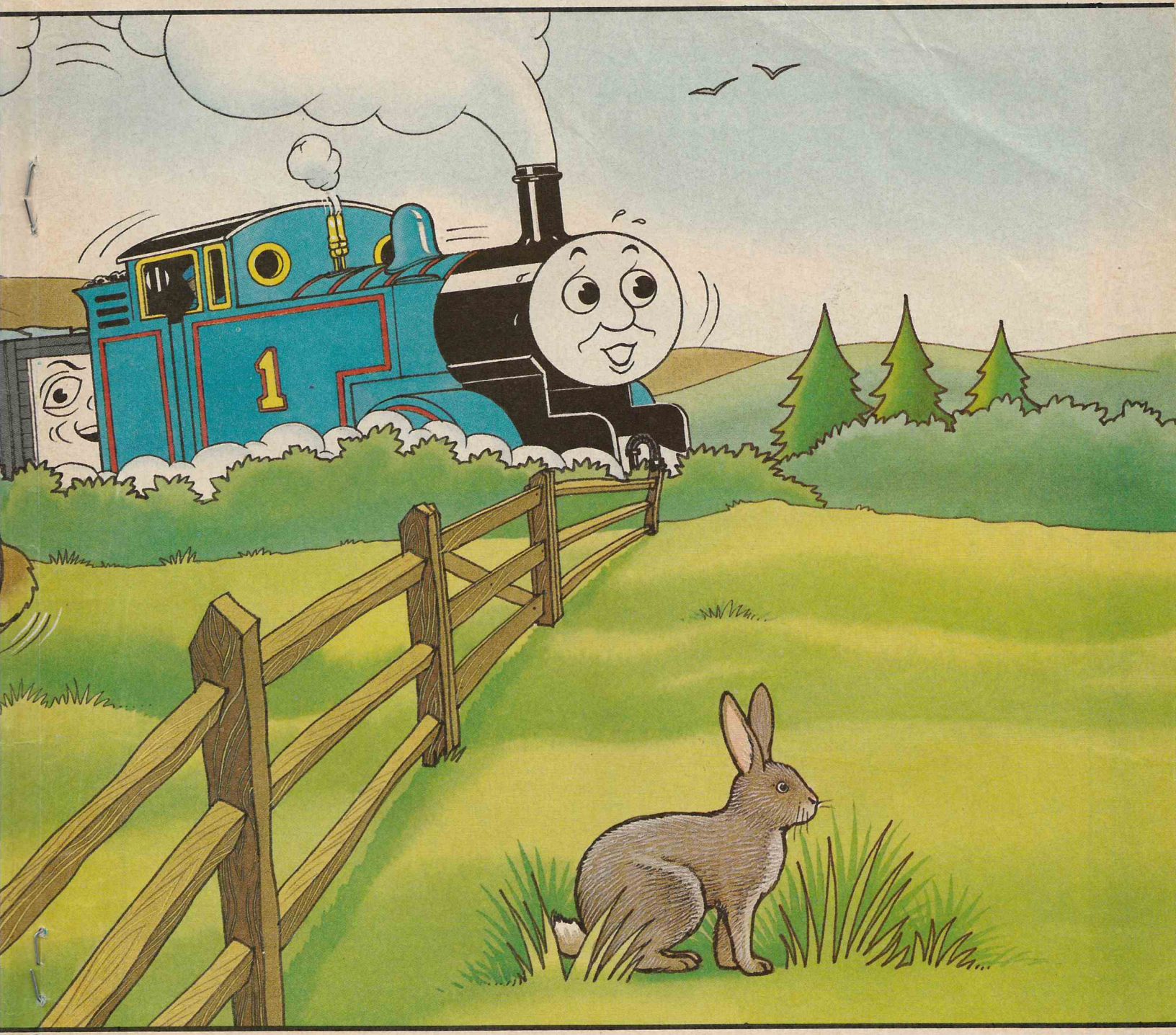
Up the stee



Which steam engine can you see?
What is his number?
How many trucks can you count?
Point to Terence the Tractor!

Is Terence going u
How many falling
Point to the hare!
What colour is he

eep hill!



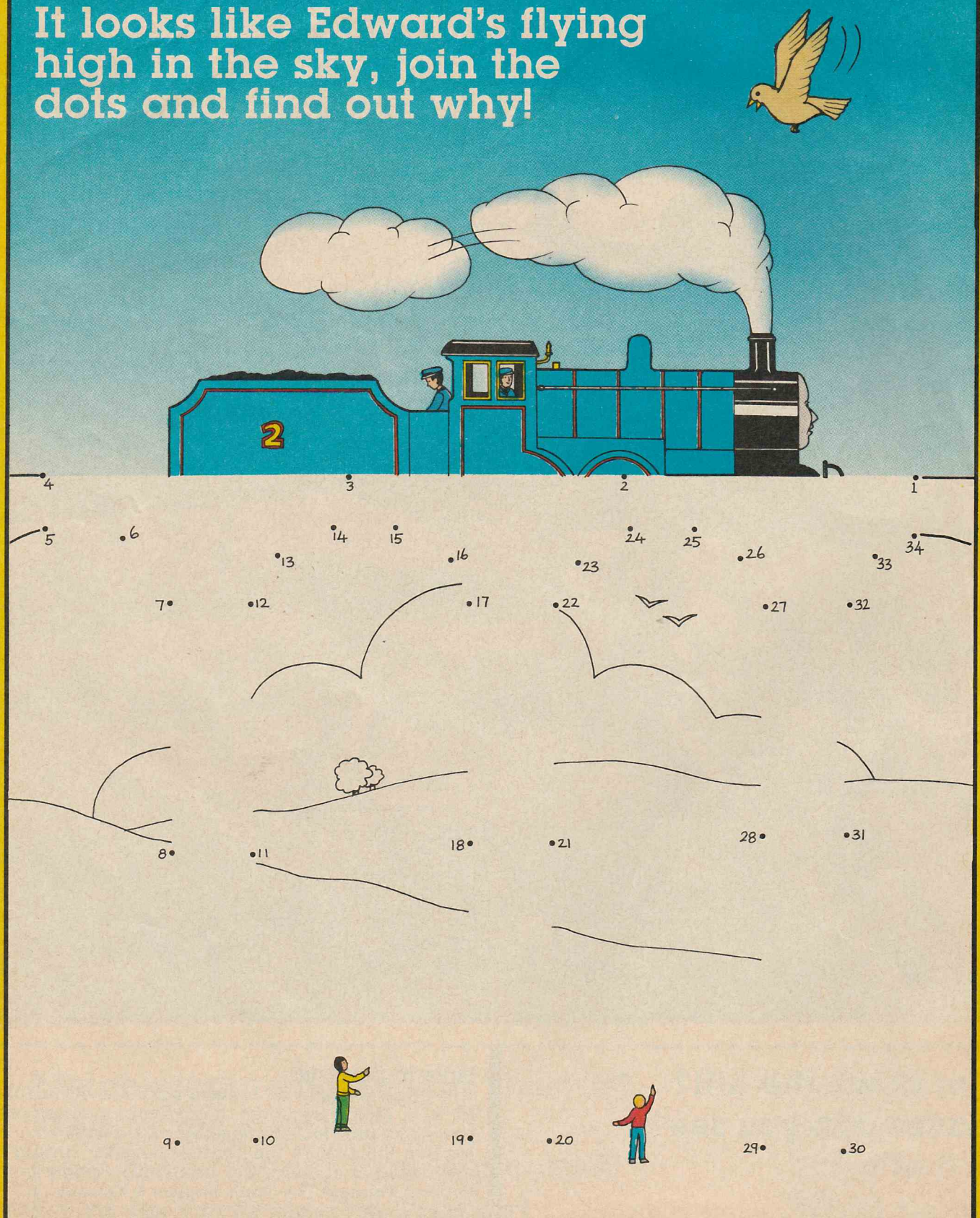
oing up or down the hill?
alling leaves can you see?
hare!
is he?

Note to parents:
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a **'mural page'** in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Past the viaduct!

JOIN THE DOTS!

It looks like Edward's flying high in the sky, join the dots and find out why!



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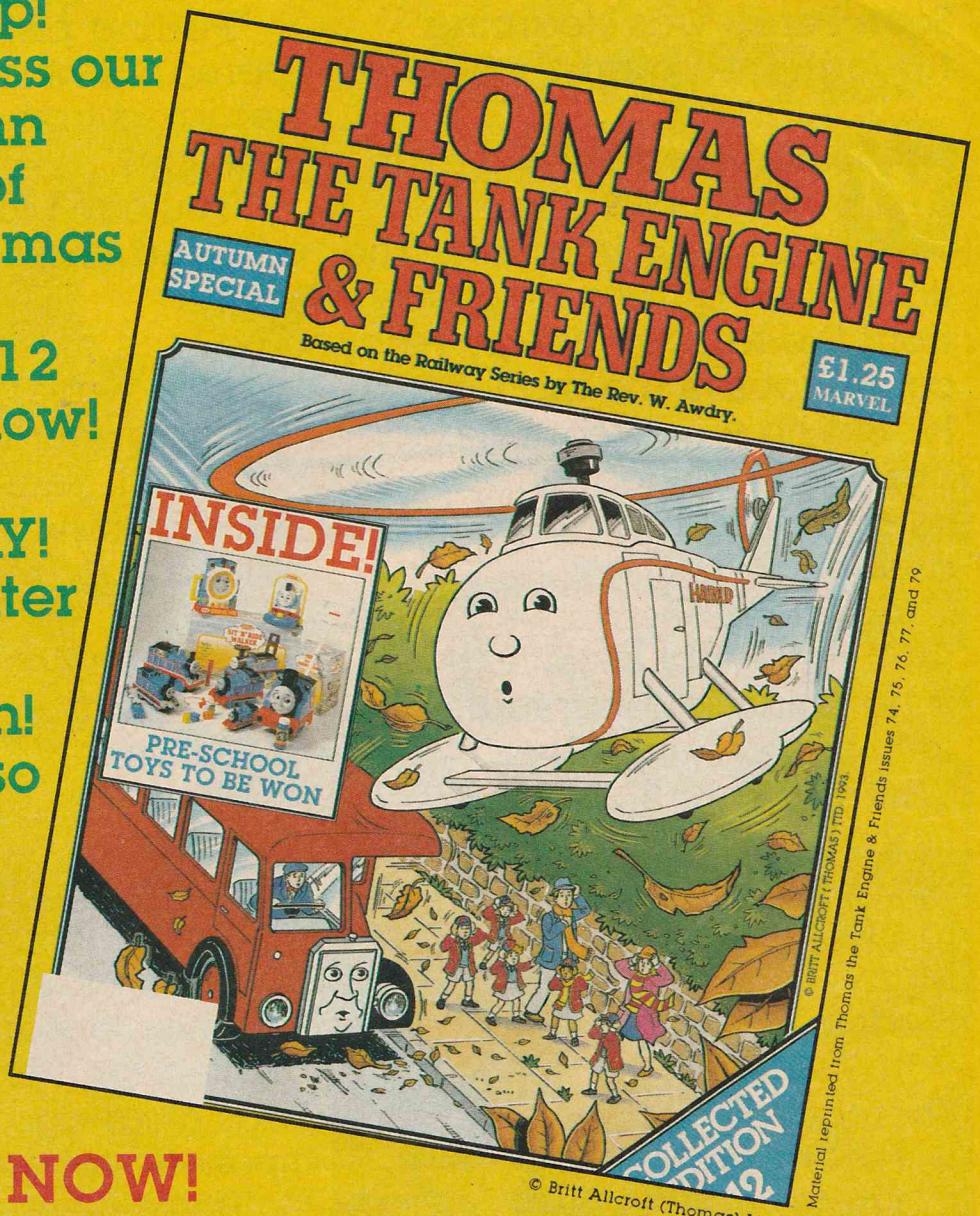

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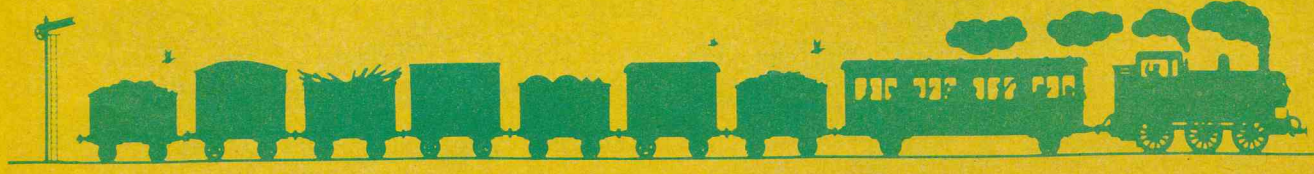


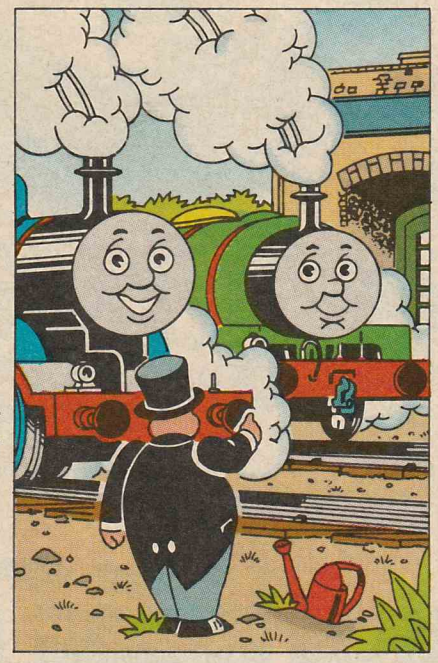
TWO FAT CONTROLLERS!

One morning, Thomas rolled into the Maintenance Shed to be oiled. Meanwhile, Percy was taking the post train along Thomas's branch line. Soon Percy was steaming through the countryside.

When he passed a farm, he noticed someone standing in a field. The figure was quite a long way from the railway line so Percy could not see the man clearly. But he was wearing a top hat and dark coat which Percy would have recognised anywhere!

"Gracious!" he gasped. "It's the Fat Controller! Whatever is he doing in the middle of a field?"

When Percy returned to the Main Station yard, Thomas was coming out of the Works. Percy told him who he had seen.



The Fat Controller

"Impossible!" laughed Thomas. "The Fat Controller is in the Maintenance Shed with the Chief Engineer. Look, here he comes now!" Percy was surprised.

"Puffing pistons!" he whispered. "How could he have returned from the farm so quickly?"

"You can't fool me , Percy!" grinned Thomas. "Stop teasing!"

The Fat Controller came to see the two engines. He asked Percy to shunt coal trucks in the yard. Then he sent Thomas down his branch line with a goods train.

When Thomas passed the farm, he stared in amazement. He could see the Fat Controller in the field, too.

"Smoke and fire!" cried Thomas. "Percy was right!" A signal on the line warned Thomas to stop. While he waited for it to show the line was clear again, Thomas spoke to his driver.

"How can the Fat Controller be in two places at once?" he asked.

"I think I can guess!" said the driver. He spotted the farmer leaning on a gate near the track. Thomas's

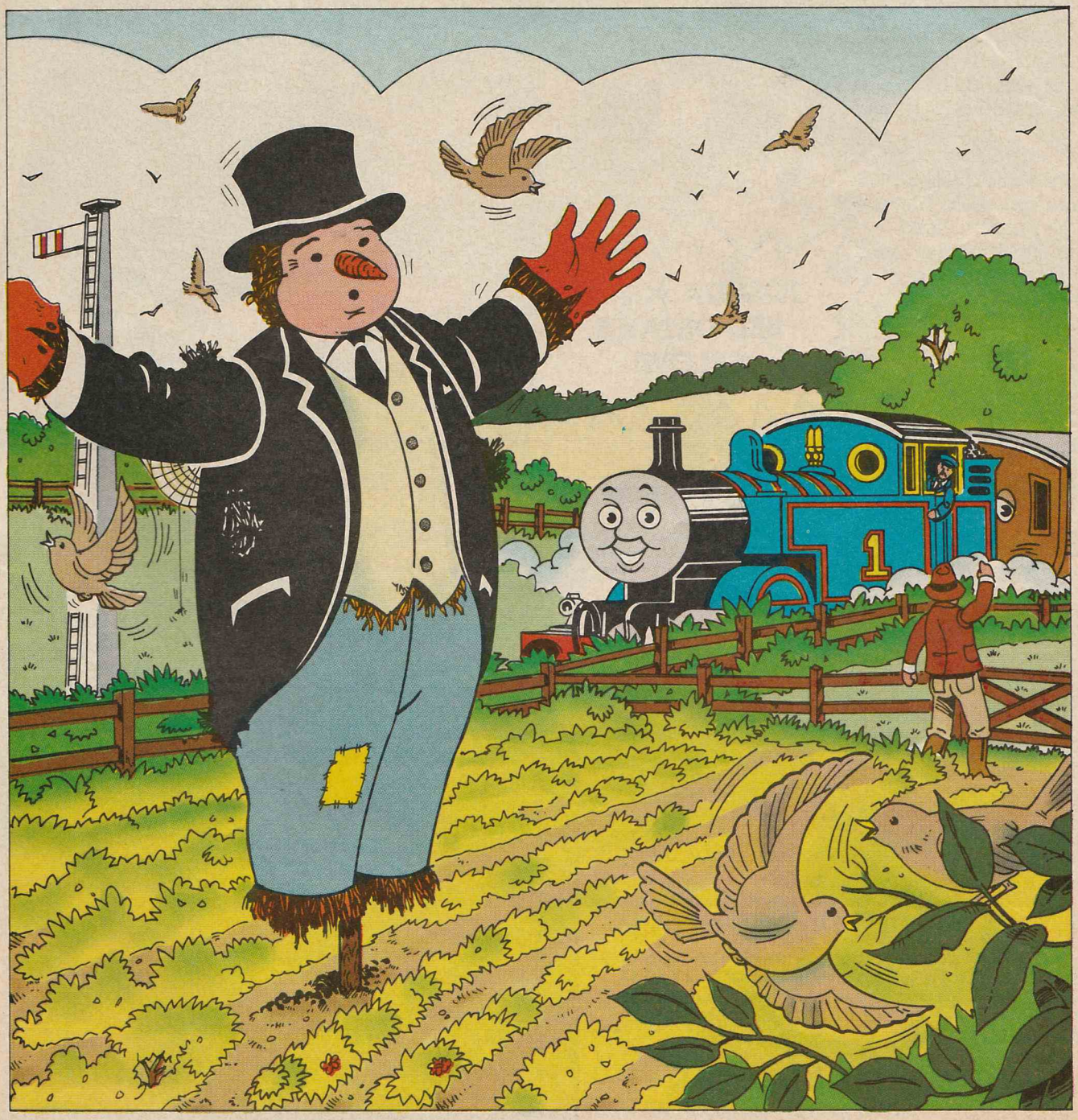
driver asked the farmer why the Fat Controller was standing in the field.

"That's not the Fat Controller!" laughed the farmer. "It's a scarecrow to stop the birds eating my crops!"

The Farmer explained that the Fat Controller was a good friend of his. And he'd given him his old top hat and coat to dress the scarecrow.

"So that's the answer to the mystery!" chuckled Thomas. "Wait till I tell Percy he didn't see the Fat Controller. What he saw was the Fat Scarecrow!"

THE END!



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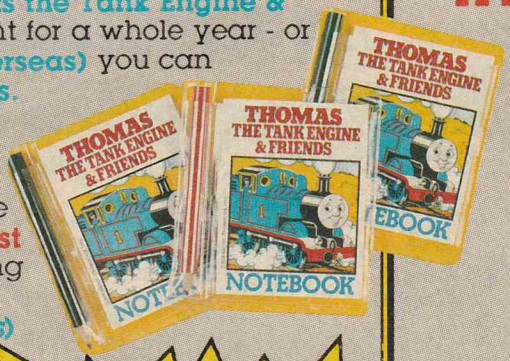

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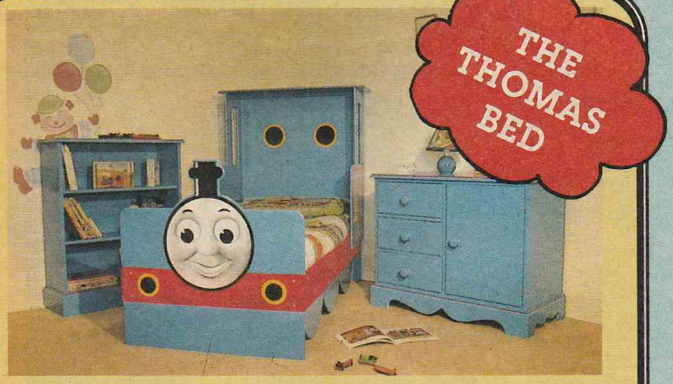

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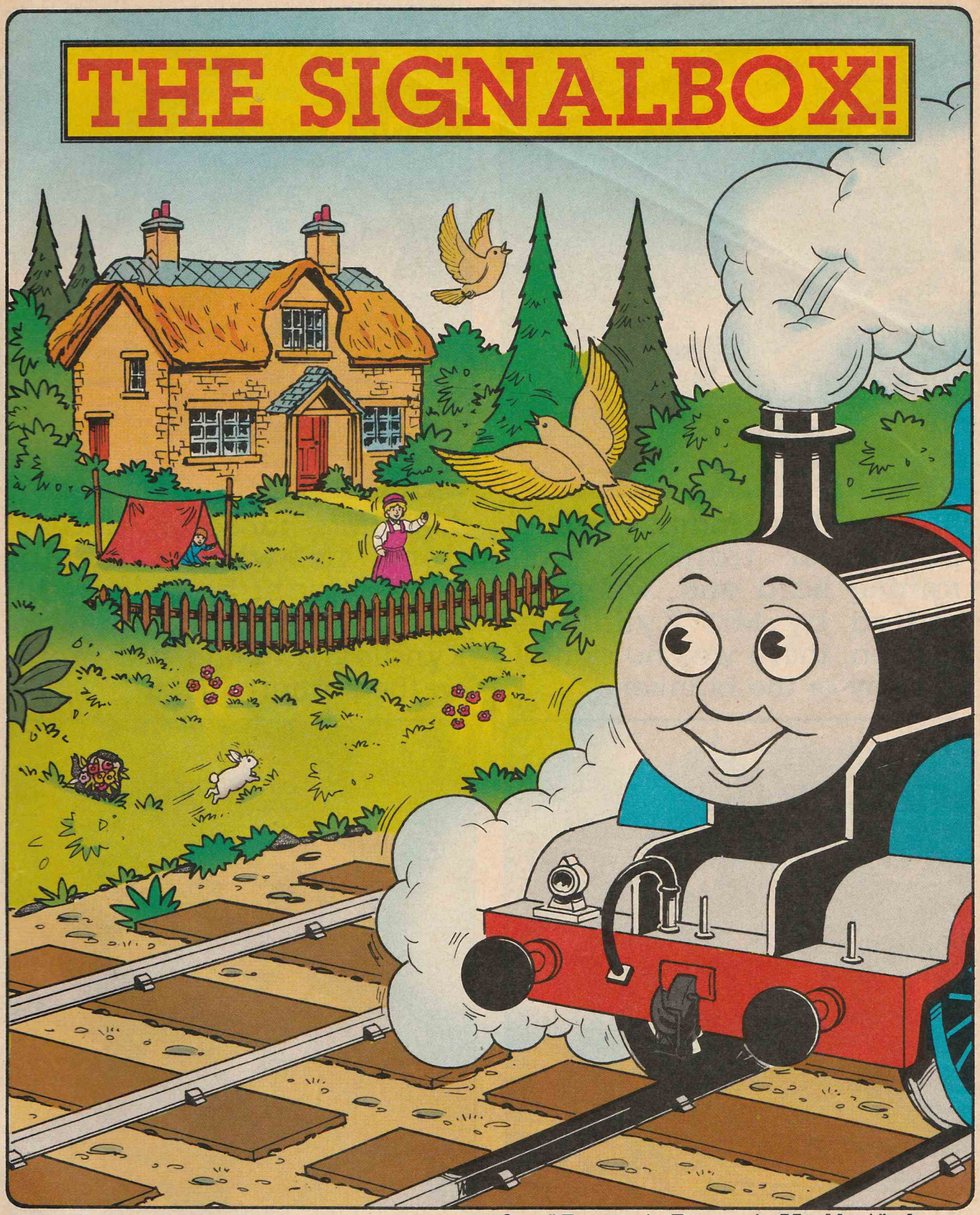
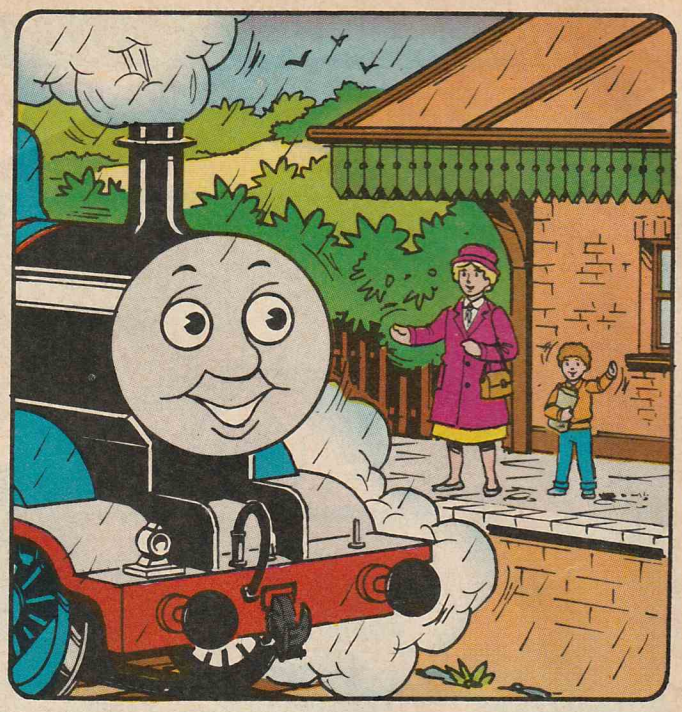
THE SIGNALBOX!



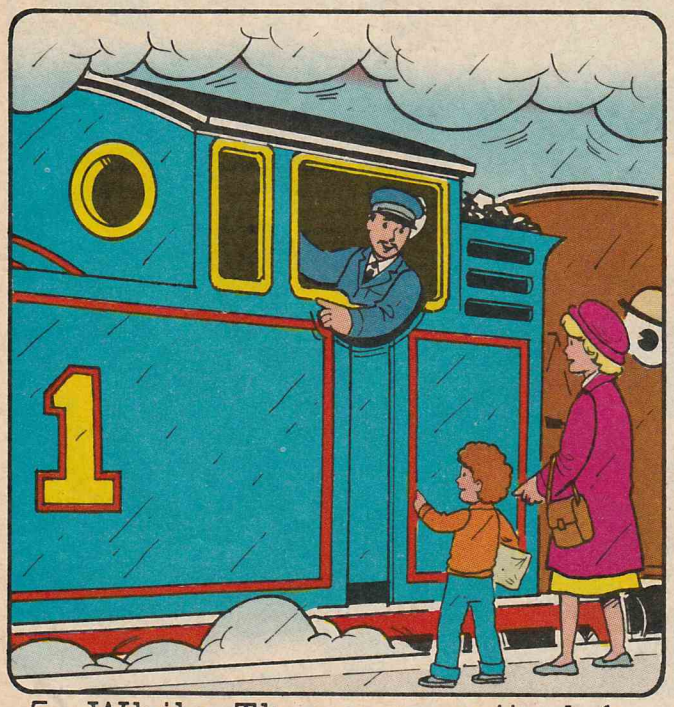
1. Thomas was pulling some trucks on his branch line. As he passed Mrs Kyndley's cottage, he saw her in the garden with a little boy. They both waved to Thomas.

2. "Peep! Peep! Hello!" he whistled. Mrs Kyndley had made a tent from an old blanket for the boy. Thomas wondered who the young visitor was.

3. Next day, Thomas took a passenger train. It was raining hard and, when he puffed by Mrs Kyndley's garden, there was no sign of the boy or the blanket.



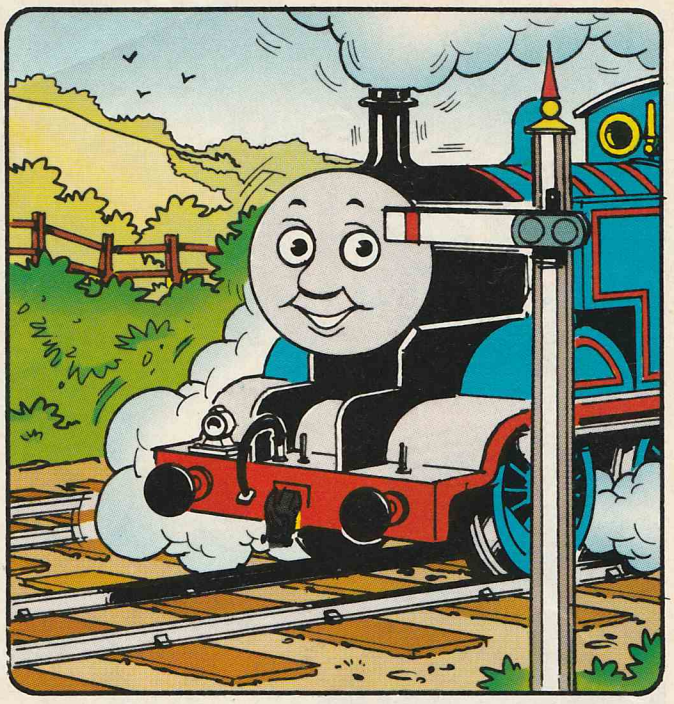
4. Thomas raced on, soaked from his wheels to his whistle, until he rolled into Wellsworth Station. Mrs Kyndley and the boy were on the platform.



5. While Thomas waited for some parcels to be loaded into his guard's van, Mrs Kyndley introduced the boy. "This is my nephew, Mark," she told Thomas's driver.

6. "He is staying with me for his school holiday," Mrs Kyndley added. "We've been to the shops to look at tents. The rain made our home-made one soggy!"

7. Mrs Kyndley explained that the proper tents were too expensive. "I bought Mark a book on engines instead!" she said. "I don't mind!" he said.



8. Mrs Kyndley and Mark climbed aboard Annie, then Thomas set off to the next station. On the way a signal was at 'stop' so Thomas pulled up.

9. A signalbox was close by and the signalman called to Thomas's driver. "A cow has wandered onto the line," he said. "The farmer is rounding it up!"

10. At last Thomas set off again. Mrs Kyndley and her nephew got out at the next station. "I want to be a signalman when I grow up!" Mark told Thomas's driver.

11. Next morning, the Fat Controller sent Thomas to collect supplies from a timber yard. When Thomas arrived, his driver spoke to the manager who kindly gave him some scrap wood. "It's just what I need!" said the driver. "Tomorrow is my day off!" Thomas was puzzled. Later, the driver took all the wood home.

12. He enjoyed his day off making something with the wood. Then he took it to Mrs Kyndley's cottage. The next time Thomas passed her garden, Mark waved excitedly from a splendid model signalbox. "I built it for him!" said Thomas's driver. "Mark can play at being a signalman now!" grinned Thomas.

THE END!

In our next issue: Truck trouble!